

Monday, March 16, 2020

Dear friends,

Just like you, we as a church family and staff are learning to live into a new normal. We livestream every Sunday so that part was not new. However, our livestream provider crashed from the volume and we had to switch to Facebook. It wasn't what we wanted but we were grateful to worship our glorious God with many of you. We are working with our provider for a better experience this Sunday.

The staff gathered this morning, (seated at safe distances from each other, of course), and brainstormed how we can care for one another and our families, care for our congregation and care for our community during this time. In other words, how are we still the church? If you're like me, over the years you've heard many times "the church is not a building, it's the people." Well, now is our chance!

Below are some important updates:

FINANCIAL UPDATE

When we don't come together to worship, many miss the opportunity to make their contribution to the church. We ask that you stay faithful with your giving during this unprecedented time. I know you would agree that our staff deserves to be paid. You may mail your gifts to the Accounting Office at 4614 Brownsboro Road, Louisville, KY 40207. You may schedule your gifts online at www.ccum.net/give. You may also text a gift by sending the dollar amount (i.e. \$500) and the code **CCUMGeneral** to 30131.

Your church leadership is keeping a close eye on our financial picture and how we can generate cost savings during this period of social distancing. It is expected that we will be able to save on some energy costs and supplies as the building is used less. We will keep you updated on the financial impact and the leadership response in the coming weeks.

BUILDING AND OFFICE HOURS

At this time, all activities in the building have been cancelled through Saturday, April 4, including Christ Church School. Only staff will have access to the building during this time. Facilities staff will be in the building to deep clean and to focus on special projects. The church main phone line will be answered Monday through Friday, 9 am to 4 pm. In case of a pastoral emergency, dial 893-2201 and press 2 to leave a message for a pastor.

We are assessing plans for Holy Week, Easter, summer mission trips and beyond. We will update you as decisions are made.

WORSHIP

We will continue to worship online only. We will communicate details of our online worship plans for this Sunday on Friday, March 20 through *eNews*.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

We are making extra efforts to reach out to our older and most vulnerable members. If you would like to be checked on by a member of our care team, please email melissa@ccum.net.

RESPONSE TO THE COMMUNITY

We are organizing our response to the needs of the community through our partnerships with outside agencies and organizations. We have been in touch with most of them and as they assess their needs, we will let you know if there are ways you can respond to help the most vulnerable in our city.

COMMUNICATING WITH YOU

We want to stay in touch with you regularly. We will send emails on Tuesday, Friday and Sunday after worship. We encourage you to review these communications for plans we have to keep you connected to ministry and how you can respond to support our community. Most importantly, we want to encourage you to stay connected to Jesus Christ and to lean on your faith. To be added to our email list, contact communications@ccum.net. We will also post up to date information on our website www.ccum.net.

YOU CAN BE A LIGHT IN A TIME OF CRISIS

- Pray for those who are affected by this virus – those who are ill, the medical professionals treating them, the scientists working on vaccines and cures, leaders making tough decisions, as well as those who are feeling lonely at this time. Please reach out to anyone you think might be feeling lonely or isolated over the next few weeks.
- Educate yourself about the virus from credible and reliable sources, such as the [World Health Organization](#), the [CDC](#) and the [Louisville, KY Coronavirus Page](#).
- Check on your friends and neighbors. If you know someone who may not have internet access, give them a call and share the information in this email.
- Consider ways you can bless medical professionals who will be working long hours with acts of kindness and notes of appreciation.
- Remember this is temporary. Our church continues to serve our congregation and community. Please continue your financial support of the work of the church.

*God,
meet us in our living rooms,
our front porches
in our beds with coffee.*

*Meet us in our fear
our anxiety
our loneliness.*

*May this homebound
communion of saints
be blessed, be nourishing,
be comforting,
be church.*

Blessings,
Becki

Rev. Becki Curry

Interim Senior Pastor

